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PATENT
B588-026 (25815.026)

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 8 and 9 have been amended. Claims 14-16 have been added and claims 1, 4-7 and 10-13 have been canceled.

The Examiner has rejected applicant's claims 1-5, 7-11 and 13 under 35 USE 102(e) as anticipated by the Otsuka, et al. patent (US patent No. 6,879,411). Claims 1, 4-7 and 10-13 have been deleted, thereby overcoming this rejection with respect to these claims. The other claims, i. e., claims 2, 3, 8 and 9, now ultimately depend from either newly added claim 14 or newly added claim 15. To the extent the rejection is believed applicable to such newly added claims 14 and 15, and their respective dependent claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

More particularly applicant's newly added claim 14 recites a communication apparatus having an E-mail function, comprising: a storage unit capable of storing multiple items of account information and storing authentication information in association with each item of account information; a selection unit adapted to select one item of account information of the plurality thereof; a setting unit adapted to perform authentication based upon the authentication information when an account is set up based upon an item of account information selected by said selection unit if multiple items of account information have been stored in said storage unit, and to set up an account based upon an item of account information selected by said selection unit; and a processing unit adapted to process related to E-mail using the account set up by said setting unit, wherein if only one item of account information has been stored in said storage unit, said setting unit omits authentication based upon said authentication information and sets up an account based upon this account information. Applicant's newly added claim 15 recites a method claim that parallels apparatus claim 14.

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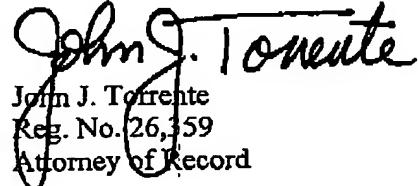
Applicant's newly added claim 14 includes certain of the features of canceled claims 1, 4 and 6. The Examiner has stated that canceled claim 6 was allowable and that the Otsuka, et al. patent failed to teach or suggest the feature of that claim i.e., the feature of "if only one item of account information has been registered in said registration means, said setting means omits authentication based on said account information and sets up an account based upon this account information."

As indicated above, applicant's newly added claim 14 recites a communication apparatus having a like feature in reciting "wherein if only one item of account information has been stored in said storage unit, said setting unit omits authentication based upon said authentication information and sets up an account based upon this account information." Such feature is thus not believed to be taught or suggested by the Otsuka, et al. patent. Accordingly, applicant's newly added claim 14 and its dependent claims are believed to patentably distinguish over the Otsuka, et al. patent. For similar reasons, applicant's newly added claim 15, and its dependent claims, are also believed to patentably distinguish over such patent.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicant's claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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